

ARCHAEOLOGICAL MONITORING REPORT

SCCAS REPORT No. 2010/033

Kedington Primary School Extension, Kedington KDG 035

M. Muldowney
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HER Information

Planning Application No: Pre-planning

Date of Fieldwork: 9th and 11th February and 26th March 2010

Grid Reference: TL 7049 4688

Funding Body: Suffolk County Council

Curatorial Officer: Dr. Jess Tipper

Project Officer: Mo Muldowney

Oasis Reference: Suffolkc1_72165

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1. Brief and Specification

Summary

An archaeological monitoring was carried out at Kedington Primary School, Kedington and identified no archaeological deposits or features.

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1. Introduction

Multiple stages of monitoring were carried out at Kedington Primary School, Kedington (Fig. 1) during groundworks ahead of a proposed extension to the rear and front of the property (pre-planning). The work was carried out on 9th and 11th February and 25th March 2010 and was undertaken in accordance with a Brief and Specification produced by Dr. Jess Tipper of the Suffolk County Council Archaeology Service, Conservation Team (SCCAS/CT).

Kedington is located in south-west Suffolk, just less than three miles east of Haverhill. The primary school itself is situated at the north end of a central undeveloped area at the centre of the village, through which the River Stour flows. The Church of St. Peter and St. Paul lies due north, on the north side of Mill Road.

2. Geology and topography

The development area is underlain by boulder clay and lies at 66m OD on a mainly flat parcel of land above and to the east of the River Stour. The land drops gently away from the school to all sides, except the north, where it rises toward the church. The school land is mainly set to grass with a tarmac car parking area at the front of the building. It is bounded on all sides by trees.

3. Archaeological and historical background

There are fourteen HER entries within 1km of the development area, which are summarised below in Table 1. The location of each entry in relation to the subject site is shown in Fig. 3. It is clear that there is the potential to find archaeological remains of all dates at the school, as there is evidence nearby from the Palaeolithic to the post-medieval period. The spotfinds of an Acheulean hand-axe (HER 005) and polished stone axe (HER 002) close to the school however, do suggest there is a greater probability of identifying earlier prehistoric finds, particularly as the school stands less than 100m east from the River Stour.

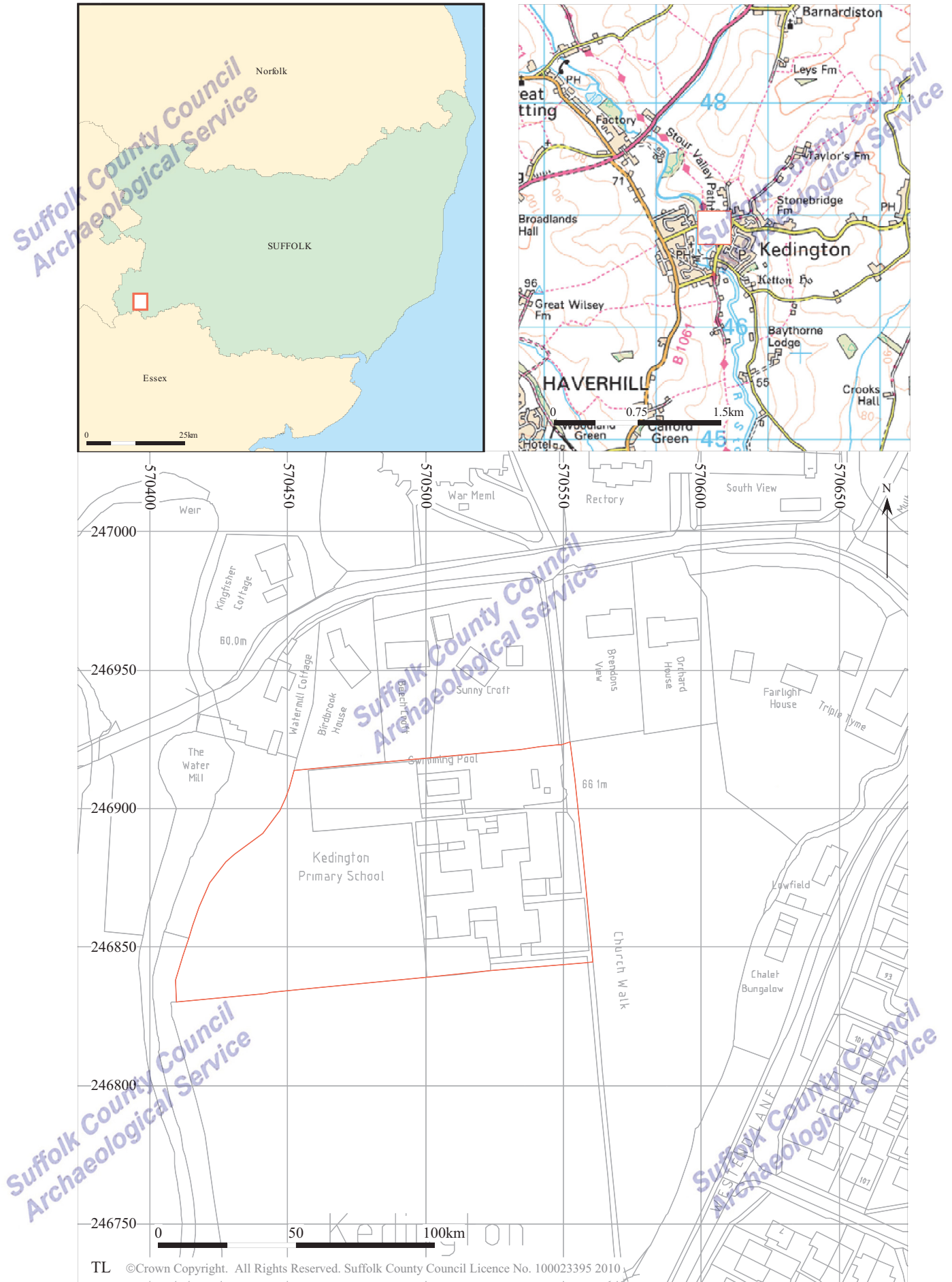


Figure 1. Site location



Figure 2. Selected HER entries

HER Code	Description	Date
KDG 001	Earthwork of Kedington Hall most, with CBM finds scatter	Med
KDG 002	Polished stone axe spotfind	Neo
KDG 003	Church of St Peter and St Paul	Med
KDG 004	Amphora sherd spotfind	Rom
KDG 005	Acheulean hand-axe spotfind	Pal
KDG 006	Interrupted ditch system	Neo
KDG 014	Sherd of Ipswich ware spotfind	Sax
KDG 017	Parallel ditch cropmarks, possible cursus	Und
KDG 019	Risbridge Home evaluation and excavation	Rom
KDG 023	Dove house	PMed
KDG 025	Site of a windmill, demolished 1945	PMed
KDG 026	Watermill and leat shown on Tithe map	PMed
KDG 030	Risbridge Union Workhouse	PMed
KDG 031	Brewery and maltings	PMed

Table 1. Summary of selected HER entries

Key: Und = undated; Pal = Palaeolithic; Neo = Neolithic; Rom = Roman; Sax = Saxon; Med = Medieval; PMed = Post-medieval

4. Methodology

Monitoring of the footings took place after the areas had been stripped by a rubber tracked Kyboto type excavator fitted with a toothless ditching bucket. A 1.8m deep soakaway hole was also excavated to the rear of the school. All exposed surfaces were examined and any finds collected.

A drawn record of the exposed deposits was created at a scale of 1:20 and all records were written on SCCAS *pro forma* sheets. A plan of the footings and soakaway was produced using a combination of on-site measurements and a Leica GPS. A colour photographic record was taken using a high-resolution digital camera.

No metal-detecting was undertaken and no environmental samples were taken.

The site archive is stored in the SCCAS main store at Bury St Edmunds under HER no. KDG 035 and a digital copy of the report has been submitted to the Archaeological Data Service at: <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/catalogue/library/greylit>

5. Results

The natural geology (0004) was overlain by all deposits and was seen in the soakaway to the rear (west) of the existing school building and in the deepest section of footing at the rear of the school (Fig. 3, Plate 1). It was mid brownish orange gravelly boulder clay and was observed at a depth of 0.60m below the ground surface in the 'soakaway'.

Overlying this was mid orange brown subsoil 0002 from which two tile fragments were recovered. It was 0.21m deep and observed in all monitored interventions (Plate 2). Mixed deposit 0003 was seen to overlie subsoil 0002 in the large footing at the front of the school (Fig. 3, Plate 3). It comprised mixed topsoil (0001), sandy gravels and patchy slag waste and was 0.2m thick at its deepest point. Layer 0003 became thinner towards the east, extending no further than 7m from the school building itself. A fragment of brick and a sample piece of slag was recovered.

Topsoil 0001 was the uppermost observed deposit and was dark orange brown sandy clay. It was on average 0.24m deep. No finds were recovered from this deposit.

Context	Description	Depth (m)
0001	Dark orange brown sandy clay. Friable. Flint: occasional, medium, sub-angular. Topsoil	0.24
0002	Mid orange brown sandy clay. Friable. Flint: common, small to medium, sub-angular; CBM: common, very small to medium fragments; chalk: common, rounded small flecks; charcoal: occasional flecks; slag: occasional small fragments. Subsoil	0.21
0003	Mixed: topsoil and light yellowish to mid orange sandy gravels and dark blue slag waste. Friable. Flint: occasional, medium, sub-angular; chalk: small rounded flecks; CBM: small fragments; charcoal: angular fragments. Mixed modern deposit probably deposited during construction of the school	0.20
0004	Mid orange boulder clay. Firm, Occasional flint nodules and angular small fragments	0.20+

Table 2. Context summary



Figure 3. Monitored areas (outlined blue)

6. Finds and Environmental Evidence

Richenda Goffin

6.1 Introduction

Finds were collected from two contexts, as shown in the table below.

Context	CBM		Slag		Spotdate
	No.	Wt/g	No.	Wt/g	
0002	2	48			Post-medieval
0003	1	206	2	6	19th – 20th century
Total	3	254	2	6	

Table 3. Finds quantities

Ceramic Building Material

Three fragments of ceramic building material were recovered from the monitoring (254g). Two pieces of roofing tile were present in the subsoil 0002. Both are fully oxidised and are made in post-medieval fabrics (medium sandy with common ferrous inclusions). The remains of a hard-fired ?late brick from deposit 0003 made in an almost stoneware fabric dates to the nineteenth century or later. No measureable dimensions were recorded for this fragment although two edges were present.

Slag and miscellaneous material

Two small, light vesicular fragments of clinker from deposit 0003 are probably modern.

Discussion

The small quantity of finds recovered from the monitoring are all post-medieval, and most of these are likely to date to the later part of this period.

7. Discussion and conclusion

The monitoring identified no archaeological features, primarily because the depth of groundworks was above the archaeological horizon. Where excavation was deeper than the upper surface of the geological horizon (in the soakaway), archaeological features were also not encountered. The absence of remains here does not preclude the identification of archaeological deposits in this area and the vicinity as the search of the HER (above) has demonstrated.

8. Archive deposition

Paper and photographic archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds

T:\Arc\ALL_site\Kedington\KDG 035 Kedington School Extension

Finds and environmental archive: SCCAS Bury St Edmunds. Store Location: H / 80 / 4

9. List of contributors and acknowledgements

The monitoring was carried out by Mo Muldowney from Suffolk County Council Archaeological Service, Field Team and the project was managed by Stuart Boulter.

Finds processing was carried out by Jonathan Van Jennians and Richenda Goffin produced the specialist finds report. The report was edited by Richenda Goffin.

Disclaimer

Any opinions expressed in this report about the need for further archaeological work are those of the Field Projects Team alone. Ultimately the need for further work will be determined by the Local Planning Authority and its Archaeological Advisors when a planning application is registered. Suffolk County Council's archaeological contracting services cannot accept responsibility for inconvenience caused to the clients should the Planning Authority take a different view to that expressed in the report.

Plates.



Plate 1. Stripped area at the rear centre of the school, showing the deeper footings section, facing SE



Plate 2. Area at the rear of the school stripped to subsoil (0002) level, facing south

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Plate 3. Car park extension area at the front of the school stripped to final level, showing mixed modern deposit 0003, facing west

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Appendix 1. Brief and Specification

Brief and Specification for Continuous Archaeological Recording

KEDINGTON PRIMARY SCHOOL, KEDINGTON

Although this document is fundamental to the work of the specialist archaeological contractor the developer should be aware that certain of its requirements are likely to impinge upon the working practices of a general building contractor and may have financial implications

1. Background

1.1 Planning permission has been sought from Suffolk County Council for two new extensions (staff room and classroom extensions) at Kedington Primary School, Kedington (TL 7049 4688). Please contact the developer for an accurate plan of the proposed works.

1.2 The Planning Authority will be advised that any consent should be conditional upon an agreed programme of work taking place before development begins (PPG 16, paragraph 30 condition).

1.3 Assessment of the available archaeological evidence indicates that the area affected by development can be adequately recorded by continuous archaeological recording during all groundworks (**Please contact the developer for an accurate plan of the development**).

1.4 This school lies in an area of high archaeological potential, recorded in the County Historic Environment Record, within the historic settlement core and 70.00m to the south of the medieval church and churchyard (HER no. KDG 003). In addition, a Roman mosaic and hypocaust is recorded from the area of the churchyard, suggestive of a villa-type building at this location, and also an Anglo-Saxon stone cross fragment, that is also indicative of occupation of this period. The landscape setting of this school, overlooking the River Stour, is a typical location for early occupation of all periods.

1.5 There is high potential for archaeological remains to be defined at this location. Any groundworks causing significant ground disturbance have the potential to damage any archaeological deposit that exists.

1.6 In accordance with the standards and guidance produced by the Institute of Field Archaeologists this brief should not be considered sufficient to enable the total execution of the project. A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) based upon this brief and the accompanying outline specification of minimum requirements, is an essential requirement. This must be submitted by the developers, or their agent, to the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council (9-10 The Churchyard, Shire Hall, Bury St Edmunds IP33 2AR; telephone/fax: 01284 352443) for approval. The work must not commence until this office has approved both the archaeological contractor as suitable to undertake the work, and the WSI as satisfactory, and until confirmation has been sought by the applicant from the Local Planning Authority. The WSI will *provide the basis for measurable standards* and will be used to establish whether the requirements of the planning condition will be adequately met.

1.7 Before commencing work the project manager must carry out a risk assessment and liaise with the site owner, client and the Conservation Team of SCCAS (SCCAS/CT) in ensuring that all potential risks are minimised.

1.8 All arrangements for the excavation of the site, the timing of the work, access to the site, the definition of the precise area of landholding and area for proposed development are to be defined and negotiated by the archaeological contractor with the commissioning body.

1.9 The responsibility for identifying any constraints on field-work (e.g. Scheduled Monument status, Listed Building status, public utilities or other services, tree preservation orders, SSSIs, wildlife sites &c., ecological considerations rests with the commissioning body and its archaeological contractor. The existence and content of the archaeological brief does not over-ride such constraints or imply that the target area is freely available.

1.10 Detailed standards, information and advice to supplement this brief are to be found in *Standards for Field Archaeology in the East of England*, East Anglian Archaeology Occasional Papers 14, 2003.

1.11 The Institute of Field Archaeologists' *Standard and Guidance for an archaeological watching brief* (revised 2001) should be used for additional guidance in the execution of the project and in drawing up the report.

2. Brief for Archaeological Monitoring

2.1 To provide a record of archaeological deposits which are damaged or removed by any development [including services and landscaping] permitted by the current planning consent.

2.2 All groundworks relating to the current planning permission, and the upcast soil, are to be observed during and after they have been excavated by the building contractor. Adequate time is to be allowed for archaeological recording of archaeological deposits during excavation, and of soil sections following excavation.

3. Arrangements for Monitoring

3.1 To carry out the monitoring work the developer will appoint an archaeologist (the archaeological contractor) who must be approved by SCCAS/CT.

3.2 The developer or his contracted archaeologist will give SCCAS/CT five working days notice of the commencement of ground works on the site, in order that the work of the archaeological contractor may be monitored. The method and form of development will also be monitored to ensure that it conforms to previously agreed locations and techniques upon which this brief is based.

3.3 Allowance must be made to cover archaeological costs incurred in monitoring the development works by the contract archaeologist. The size of the contingency should be estimated by the approved archaeological contractor, based upon the outline works in this Brief and Specification and the building contractor's programme of works and time-table.

3.4 If unexpected remains are encountered SCCAS/CT must be informed immediately. Amendments to this specification may be made to ensure adequate provision for archaeological recording.

4. Specification

4.1 The developer shall afford access at all reasonable times to SCCAS/CT and the contracted archaeologist to allow archaeological monitoring of building and engineering operations which disturb the ground.

4.2 Opportunity must be given to the contracted archaeologist to hand excavate any discrete archaeological features which appear during earth moving operations, retrieve finds and make measured records as necessary. Where it is necessary to see archaeological detail one of the soil faces is to be trowelled clean.

4.3 All archaeological features exposed must be planned at a scale of 1:20 or 1:50 on a plan showing the proposed layout of the development, depending on the complexity of the data to be recorded. Sections should be drawn at 1:10 or 1:20 again depending on the complexity to be recorded.

4.4 A photographic record of the work is to be made of any archaeological features, consisting of both monochrome photographs and colour transparencies/high resolution digital images.

4.5 All contexts must be numbered and finds recorded by context. All levels should relate to Ordnance Datum.

4.6 Archaeological contexts should, where possible, be sampled for palaeo-environmental remains. Best practice should allow for sampling of interpretable and datable archaeological deposits and provision should be made for this. Advice on the appropriateness of the proposed strategies will be sought from Rachel Ballantyne, English Heritage Regional Adviser for Archaeological Science (East of England). A guide to sampling archaeological deposits (Murphy, P.L. and Wiltshire, P.E.J., 1994, *A guide to sampling archaeological deposits for environmental analysis*) is available for viewing from SCCAS.

4.7 All finds will be collected and processed (unless variations in this principle are agreed with SCCAS/CT during the course of the monitoring).

4.8 The data recording methods and conventions used must be consistent with, and approved by, the County Historic Environment Record.

5. Report Requirements

5.1 An archive of all records and finds is to be prepared consistent with the principles of *Management of Archaeological Projects (MAP2)*, particularly Appendix 3. This must be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record within three months of the completion of work. It will then become publicly accessible.

5.2 The project manager must consult the County Historic Environment Record Officer to obtain an event number for the work. This number will be unique for each project or site and must be clearly marked on any documentation relating to the work.

5.3 Finds must be appropriately conserved and stored in accordance with *UK Institute of Conservators Guidelines*.

5.4 The project manager should consult the SCC Archive Guidelines 2008 and also the County HER Officer regarding the requirements for the deposition of the archive (conservation, ordering, organisation, labelling, marking and storage) of excavated material and the archive.

5.5 The WSI should state proposals for the deposition of the digital archive relating to this project with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), and allowance should be made for costs incurred to ensure proper deposition (<http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/policy.html>).

5.6 The finds, as an indissoluble part of the site archive, should be deposited with the County Historic Environment Record if the landowner can be persuaded to agree to this. If this is not possible for all or any part of the finds archive, then provision must be made for additional recording (e.g. photography, illustration, analysis) as appropriate.

5.7 A report on the fieldwork and archive, consistent with the principles of *MAP2*, particularly Appendix 4, must be provided. The report must summarise the methodology employed, the stratigraphic sequence, and give a period by period description of the contexts recorded, and an inventory of finds. The objective account of the archaeological evidence must be clearly distinguished from its interpretation. The Report must include a discussion and an assessment of the archaeological evidence, including palaeoenvironmental remains recovered from palaeosols and cut features. Its conclusions must include a clear statement of the archaeological value of the results, and their significance in the context of the Regional Research Framework (*East Anglian Archaeology*, Occasional Papers 3 & 8, 1997 and 2000).

5.8 An unbound copy of the assessment report, clearly marked DRAFT, must be presented to both SCCAS/CT for approval within six months of the completion of fieldwork unless other arrangements are negotiated with the project sponsor and SCCAS/CT.

5.9 Following acceptance, two copies of the assessment report should be submitted to SCCAS/CT. A single hard copy should be presented to the County Historic Environment Record as well as a digital copy of the approved report.

5.10 A summary report, in the established format, suitable for inclusion in the annual 'Archaeology in Suffolk' section of the *Proceedings of the Suffolk Institute of Archaeology*, must be prepared and included in the project report.

5.11 Where appropriate, a digital vector trench plan should be included with the report, which must be compatible with MapInfo GIS software, for integration in the County Historic Environment Record. AutoCAD files should be also exported and saved into a format that can be imported into MapInfo (for example, as a Drawing Interchange File or .dxf) or already transferred to .TAB files.

5.12 At the start of work (immediately before fieldwork commences) an OASIS online record <http://ads.ahds.ac.uk/project/oasis/> must be initiated and key fields completed on Details, Location and Creators forms.

5.13 All parts of the OASIS online form must be completed for submission to County Historic Environment Record. This should include an uploaded .pdf version of the entire report (a paper copy should also be included with the archive).

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E-mail: jess.tipper@suffolk.gov.uk

Date: 26 October 2009 Reference: /KedingtonPrimarySchool-Kedington2009

This brief and specification remains valid for six months from the above date. If work is not carried out in full within that time this document will lapse, the authority should be notified and a revised brief and specification may be issued.

If the work defined by this brief forms a part of a programme of archaeological work required by a Planning Condition, the results must be considered by the Conservation Team of the Archaeological Service of Suffolk County Council, who have the responsibility for advising the appropriate Planning Authority.